

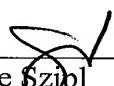
**REMARKS**

With the above amendments, the specification has been amended to incorporate the International and Japanese priority applications by reference. The claims have been amended to place them in better form for examination.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in good condition for examination. Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

*GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joerg-Uwe Szimpl  
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.  
Suite PH-1  
2300 Ninth Street, South  
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700  
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429  
Email: gands@szipl.com  
Customer No.: 24203